By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI
Editor-in-Chief

ESPN filed a lawsuit against Notre Dame earlier this month claiming the University’s refusal to release campus police records violates Indiana’s public records law. According to a report Wednesday in the South Bend Tribune.

The case, filed Jan. 15 in St. Joseph Superior Court, alleges that Notre Dame officials violated Indiana’s Access to Public Records Act when they refused to release Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) records requested by ESPN reporter Paula Lavigne, the Tribune reported.

In September and November 2014, Lavigne formally requested police incident reports and logs related to Notre Dame student athletes but was turned down both times, according to the Tribune. She filed complaints with Indiana Public Access Counselor Luke Brit in October and December, according to documents available on the Public Access Counselor website. Brit is an attorney appointed

Major’s Night features Career Center

By ANNETTE SAYRE
News Writer

Everyone throws the term around, but what does it actually mean to “major in something?” Major’s Night will be held Thursday to help students get a better understanding of their options in college and beyond.

“A typical misconception that underclassmen have when they come to college is that a major will define their career for the rest of their life — and that is not the case,” Lara Dalun, the project leader of Major’s Night said.

She said she hopes students will come to the event Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. in South Dining Hall with a desire to be inspired.

“We want students to be creative, to follow their curiosities and to explore all different kinds of things,” Dalun said.

In preparation for this event, student government created the motto “learn, discuss, envision” to encourage students not only to learn about the academic opportunities offered at Notre Dame, but also to discuss their passions with professors and students and seek guidance from career counselors.

“This year we wanted to make Major’s Night a little different,” Dalun said. “The Career Center is going to play a larger role.”

Career counselors will be present at the event to sit and chat with students about how a major can transition into a career and what a major really means for their future.

Michelle Lacouture, student government’s director of academic affairs, said Major’s Night is the showcase of all of
The Observer strives for the highest standards in print and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana. It is published Monday through Friday on the campus of Notre Dame by the students of the Notre Dame University and Saint Mary's College. Contents, opinions, and columnists express the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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As the South Bend winter rages on, the Vermis of Carroll Hall have a beautiful view of the Golden Dome framed by barren trees to comfort them as they make the long journey to campus.

The Student Section

Have a question you want answered? Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com

QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What was the best activity you do last semester?

Carolyn Etienne

sophomore

Holy Cross Hall

"Spending Christmas with my fellow Belles."

Katie Slisz

sophomore

Holy Cross Hall

"Getting to see Papa Francesco in Rome with my fellow Belles."

Nicole Splix

sophomore

Holy Cross Hall

"I went to Colorado for the first time and explored the mountains."

Margaret Mary Underwood

Year

Holy Cross Hall

"Walking through the streets of Assisi, Italy with four close friends."

Olivia Ely

sophomore

Holy Cross Hall

"Getting lost on a road trip with my friend on the way to a pumpkin patch."

Casey Moorhead

sophomore

Holy Cross Hall

"I took a scuba class."

As the South Bend winter rages on, the Vermis of Carroll Hall have a beautiful view of the Golden Dome framed by barren trees to comfort them as they make the long journey to campus.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Thursday

Majors Night
South Dining Hall/ Reckers
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Learn about majors and academic programs.

Basketball Game
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Joyce Center Women’s basketball plays Georgia Tech.

Friday

Graduate Student
Mass
Basilica of the Sacred Heart
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
Worship Service.

“Ronald K. Brown/ Evidence”
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Dance performance.

Saturday

Tennis Match
Eck Tennis Pavilion
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Men’s tennis plays Oklahoma State.

Vigil Mass
Basilica of the Sacred Heart
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Worship Service

Sunday

“National Gallery”
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Film about London’s National Gallery.

Rejoice! Mass
Dillon Hall Chapel
8 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Worship service in the African-American tradition.

Undergraduate Workshop: “Crafting a Strong Grant Proposal”
Brownstone Hall
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Sustainability Undergraduate Research Expo
Hesburgh Library
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday

Undergraduate Workshop: “Crafting a Strong Grant Proposal”
Brownstone Hall
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Sustainability Undergraduate Research Expo
Hesburgh Library
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Have a question you want answered? Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
Author reads from book on apocalypses

By MEGAN VALLEY
News Writer

The Creative Writing Program hosted a reading by Lucy Corin Wednesday night in Hammes Notre Dame bookstore. After a brief introduction from Steve Tomasula, professor of English, Corin read excerpts from her latest book "One Hundred Apocalypses and Other Apocalypses," a collection of short pieces centered around an apocalypse.

"The idea came from a personal challenge," Corin said. "I'd take any idea or bit of writing I had and turn it into an apocalypse. I had put together a book, but I didn't know how to make it a good book."

The book consists of 100 apocalypses: there are three longer stories followed by a set of flash fictions, or short stories sometimes lasting just a few lines long.

"I'd take any idea or bit of writing I had and turn it into an apocalypse. I had put together a book, but I didn't know how to make it a good book."

Corin said the story is "supposed to get all messed up with your perceptions." After the reading, Corin answered questions from the audience. Many of the questions were centered around the dark themes in her book, as well as in her other books, including "Everyday Psycho Killers - A History For Girls." She explained that as a child, her sister had always been far more interested in the macabre than she had been.

"I just fell into the tunnel. I had a relationship [with dark material], but it was a wary one," Corin said.

In the 1990s, Corin said she noticed the cyclic relationship people had with terrible events, such as brutal killings and kidnappings, especially during many prevalent cases that were shown on television at the time.

"You'd watch yourself move from pleasure to self-aware pleasure to disgust at yourself for enjoying it," she said. "I used to kind of sneer at people who didn't want to see that sort of thing in movies."

"I'd take any idea or bit of writing I had and turn it into an apocalypse. I had put together a book, but I didn't know how to make it a good book."

Contact Megan Valley at mvalley@nd.edu

Students prepare for March for Life

By SELENA PONIO
News Writer

The Notre Dame Right to Life club, as well as other members of the Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross community, will be participating in the March for Life this year in Washington D.C. on Thursday.

This year, a record total of 692 students from Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross community, will be participating in the annual march.

"We hope that this record only lasts one year though, as we are always looking to bring more people with us," Kristina Flathers, senior and vice president of communications for the ND Right to Life club, said.

"I want to emphasize the part that says 'all human life,' because though many think that we care only about abortion, our pro-life beliefs and events actually cover much more than that," Flathers said.

"I think attending the march is important because it awakens people's interest and passion for life issues and reminds them that they are not alone in caring," Flathers said. "This year we are excited for this opportunity for the preservation of human dignity of life...is why I am most excited for this march," first year Tierney Vdolyak said.

Flathers, who has attended every March for Life since her first year, said she is especially excited for this year due to the huge interest and participation displayed by the community.

"My favorite memories revolve around the friends that I make on that trip, some of whom are my best friends here," Flathers said. "There is a very special community that forms around attending the march."

According to Flathers, one of the most touching facts about the march is that people travel nearly ten hours both ways by bus and sleep on the floors of churches for the singular cause that brings them together.

"I think attending the march is important because it awakens people's interest and passion for life issues and reminds them that they are not alone in caring," Flathers said. "Over 600,000 people showing up for a demonstration has a way of doing just that."

Contact Selena Ponio at sponio@nd.edu
Editor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

building off all that they’ve accomplished.” Hadley has also covered Notre Dame women’s golf, men’s tennis, women’s soccer, cross country and track and field, and spent the past year helping to coordinate all of The Observer’s sports coverage.

“Greg has become an absolutely indispensable member of the staff this year, and I know he will do a fantastic job leading The Observer in the coming year,” outgoing Editor-in-Chief Ann Marie Jakubowski said. “I can’t wait to see what he accomplishes with his great talent, passion and work ethic.”

“We have a great group of people on staff, and I am confident that we will continue to be an outstanding news source for the rest of campus,” Hadley said. “I will continue to look for ways to improve and learn as much as I can.”

Hadley will take on his new position March 1.

Art

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the trade unions. "What struck me was that this building was designed by the Nazis starting being built in 1936, and the architect of this building’s main objectives was to create a report for the working class, for the German workers, where everyone had a sea side view," Rappaport said.

The exhibit consists of 135 images, with each image showing the views from windows that were taken within one block of one building section.

According to a description of "Touristic Intents" as provided by a brochure at the event, each image "depicts only the space of a window’s opening, its ‘view’ floating on a white background." In order to "reinforce the initial promise of an ocean view for all, the obscured view is mirrored on the page with a reconstruction of an ocean view pushing through the same shape."

The site was sold and intended to be converted into condominiums, rental apartments and homes, to "reinforce the initial promise of a sea side view," Rappaport said. "An artist, I think we get to have permission to ask people personal questions and intimate questions, and for whatever reason, they open up to us really nicely.

"It has been a real privilege and an incredible answer to my own curiosity about certain issues." Potter spoke for both herself and Rappaport when she said this work has affected the way that they both see certain parts of the world.

"Sometimes you make work and then you leave it behind, but this work has made me think a lot. I really learned from these interviewees, and this project has changed a lot of my opinions and attitudes about social situations,” Potter said.

Contact Kate Kulwicki at kkulw101@saintmarys.edu

Retired professor of English Ted Billy visits the spring exhibitions in the Moreau Galleries, which opened Jan. 21 and will last through March 6. The artwork explores diaspora, immigration and architecture.
 Majors
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
the different majors and academic opportunities for students under one roof.
This year, we wanted to make the experience one of personal growth and reflection for students by bringing the Career Center to the event. We’ve worked really close
ly with the Career Center’s Engagement Team on how best to address and facilitate this discovery and self-reflection process for students through the Center’s expertise and guidance,” Lacouture said.
The Career Center’s Engagement Team will also offer sign ups for personal meetings to be held at a later date.
Professors, faculty and current students representing the array of majors and academic programs offered at Notre Dame will also be present at the event. Major’s Night will not only offer academic resources from every major, minor and study abroad program, but also from several research institutes like the Nanovic and Kellogg Institutes, as well as from the Center for Social Concerns and the Center for Undergraduate Scholarship Engagement.
Additionally, this year student government has created a brochure for the event with ideas on how best to take advantage of the resources available to them on Major’s Night. The pamphlet includes ideas of what students should be doing during Major’s Night with a list of possible questions that can be asked of professors, as well as where to go after the event for further investigation.
Lara Dulin said the event is also extended to students who may already have selected their major or majors, but who can investigate minors or supplementary programs to better explore their passions.
“Major’s Night is primarily for freshmen and undeclared sophomores, but people are constantly shaping their academic goals, so sophomores can come to learn about study abroad or pick up a minor, and even juniors can come and talk to the research institutes,” Dulin said. “It’s for everyone.”
We hope students come in with a clear mind and an open heart and allow themselves to examine what it is they want to get out of their education at Notre Dame,” Lacouture said.

Contact Annette Sayre at asayre@nd.edu

ESPN
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
by the governor to advise on public access matters.
“As we have previously said, our practices are in full accordan with the Access to Public Records Act and consistent with multiple advisory opinions that have addressed this matter over the past 12 years,” University spokesman Dennis Brown said in an email Wednesday afternoon. “We are confident that our position will be affirmed in court.”
ESPN submitted two written opinions by Britts as evidence in the lawsuit, the Tribune reported. Britts recent written opinions departed from that of previous public access counselors, who had written that professional police departments at Indiana public universities did not meet the definition of public agencies and so were exempt from the state’s public records law. Britts opinion is not compulsory and does not carry the force of law, but the superior court decision will.
Britts Oct. 31 opinion put Notre Dame on notice that his office considers NDSU a public law enforcement agency after ESPN and the South Bend Tribune filed complaints against the department.
“The Notre Dame law enforcement agency is clearly operating under the color of the law, enforcing Indiana criminal code and not mere campus policy or disciplinary procedures,” he wrote.
“They also have the authority to police the surrounding community. They even have a 911 dispatch.
“If a law enforcement agency has police powers, then they should be subject to the typical scrutiny given to traditional police forces.”
Britts opinion was based on the premise that police powers come from the state and “do not spring forth organically.”
“This may be inconsistent with previous Public Access Counselors’ opinions but I do not believe it is inconsistent with the spirit of the Access to Public Records Act,” he wrote. “... The ultimate test is from where their power is derived. The police force is established by the governing body of a private institution, but their powers are not inherent nor are they derived from Notre Dame University.
“I am not comfortable saying an organization can hide behind the cloak of secrecy when they have the power to arrest and create criminal records and exercise the State’s police powers.”
In his October opinion, Britts said NDSU had been under prior public access counselors’ opinions and therefore couldn’t be held instantly accountable for its response to Lavigne’s original request. However, in his Jan. 5 opinion responding to Lavigne’s later complaint, he wrote that now the University was on notice that they were considered a public law agency, his “expectation is that they release records accordingly and comply fully with the Access to Public Records Act.”
“The reversal of course was not taken lightly or without regard to the impact on private university police forces,” Britts wrote. “It is the Opinion of the Public Access Counselor that if the Notre Dame Security Police Department has documentation regarding any suspected crimes, accidents or complaints involving the individual named in your request and has not released that particular documenta tion, then they have violated the Access to Public Records Act.”
According to the Tribune, ESPN is asking the court to order Notre Dame to release the requested records for inspection and copying and order NDSU to pay a civil penalty and court fees. No hearing date has been set yet.

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Valentine’s Day
Thursday, Feb. 19
Let It Be “A Celebration of the Music of the Beatles”
Friday, Feb. 27
Disney Live! “Pirates & Princess Adventure”
Saturday, Feb. 20
South Bend Symphony KeyBank Pops “Rogers & Hammerstein”
Monday, March 16
Brit Floyd “Space & Time - World Tour 2015”
Friday-Saturday, March 20-21
Memphis Broadway Theatre League
Saturday, March 28
South Bend Symphony KeyBank Pops “Tribute to Brubeck”

See more coverage online. ndsmcobserver.com
The same ol’ State of the Union

Kyle Palmer
Reasonably Right

Tuesday night, I received a number of messages from longtime friends asking why I wasn’t filling up their Facebook and Twitter feeds with commentary on President Obama’s State of the Union Address as I had so done perennially. The reason why is because I had already read an advanced transcript of his prepared remarks and wasn’t really all that excited once the speech came. The only enjoyment I took away from the speech was when I could quiz myself on the names and home states of the different politicians in the chamber – at which point I realized I have an unhealthy addiction to politics, especially for not being a political science major, but I’ll ignore that for now.

In reading the speech, I felt like the same points were brought up as were every year prior. President Obama patted himself on the back for things that cannot be attributed to his doing, such as gas prices. He glorified his ideas as bold, sensible and proven. It was as if he was taking a victory lap from his 2012 reelection, forgetting the fact that he couldn’t energize his own supporters to get out to the ballot box in 2014, which led his party to experience unprecedented congressional losses, handing the Republican Party its first Senate majority since 2007 and its largest majority in the House since 1947. Truly an absurd time to inflate one’s own political image.

That said, the president is still a savvy communicator, and coupled with his speechwriting staff, that talent was on full display Tuesday. The buzzphrase of the night was “middle-class economics,” which showed the president is still not above dividing the nation and attempting to discredit his detractors. Surely, with titles of ideas like “middle-class economics” and “Affordable Care Act,” anyone who opposes them appears to be against the middle-class and affordable health care. The posturing never seems to end with this administration.

Most displeasing, though, was the president’s evidently continued unwillingness to reach across the aisle to work for the American people. While never addressing them directly, he made multiple sideways toward the Republican Congress and issued two veto threats. When pitching his ideas, the president is unrelenting in how non-partisan and non-political he believes them to be, full knowing that most Republicans and even some Democrats, would oppose them.

President Obama had the chance to get up on the Speaker’s rostrum and unite a country that is still deeply politically divided by showing he was genuinely interested in working with all members of Congress, the elected representatives of the people, but instead he decided to work exclusively with his weakened party and ignore those chosen to represent the majority of the country. He came into office promising “hope” and “change,” but we are only getting the same partisanship that has always been present. Leading his Democratic Congress, he held the heads of Republicans under water for his first two years in office, refusing to compromise or even listen. Now, even after the nation decisively rejected his party, he would still refuse to compromise. He had a chance to solidify his legacy as a president that actually unified a nation politically divided, but instead chose to drive a wedge into that divide, only making it grow.

Don’t get me wrong, I do think that the current state of this union is strong; rather, it has room to improve as it always will. The reason why is because the American people are intelligent, innovative, moral and resilient. We will continue to improve, however accelerated or decelerated by the executive, because Americans want to do right by their family, their neighbors and their religious or ethical convictions. The credit of endurance and progress does not belong with the president, but with the people.

Kyle Palmer is an Alumni Hall junior majoring in Accountancy. He welcomes reasonable debate on all his opinions, and can be reached at kpalmer6@nrd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

INSIDE COLUMN

Baby sitter worries

Emily McConville

Over the last weekend of winter break, my parents went to Florida for a much-needed vacation, leaving me, my brother and my seven-year-old sister, Bridgid, home alone for five days. It had occurred to all of us that I am now technically an adult, so it fell to me to take care of Bridgid from that Friday to that Tuesday.

Leading up to my parents’ flight out, I was worried. To be fair, watching my second-grade sister for five days isn’t that daunting. She had something planned for every day, whether school, a basketball game or a playdate. I had access to a car, so I could take her to a museum or bookshop to kill a few hours. She went to bed early, so I would have the evenings to myself. My parents also stocked up on food before they left and were available by phone at any point. They also left me a debit card, and I was fairly well compensated.

Still, I can be pretty spacy when it comes to household things. For that reason, I was terrified. What if I forgot to feed Bridgid healthy things and she ate Goldfish and noodles all weekend? What if I didn’t wash her hair or take her to the potty herself somewhere in the house? What if I forgot to pick her up from her friend’s house? What if we ran out of things to do and she got so bored she’d hate me forever? I had never been fully responsible for another person before, and I feared messing it all up.

It was surprising when the weekend went perfectly fine. I woke my sister up when it was time to get up. I let her watch TV. I gave her breakfast. I asked her to eat strawberries, and she did so willingly. I picked her up from school. We ate. We slept. We played. We kept the house clean. When my parents got back she admitted that the weekend had been pretty fun.

The takeaway: I think I’d like to be a mother in a few years (or 10), and I think I understand what that means. Of course, babysitting my sister wasn’t motherhood in microcosm. I watched a relatively quiet and independent seven-year-old for five days. I wasn’t responsible for a collicky infant or a toddler dead-set on exploring electrical outlets. I didn’t feel the bitterness of the first day of kindergarten or the fear accompanying a missed call or the anger over a teenager’s first heartbreak. I’m definitely not prepared for that.

But while being responsible for another tiny human being was stressful, the anxiety over somebody else somehow lessened my anxieties about myself. After a semester of worrying about me, my grades and my future, focusing on Bridgid made me feel content, capable and even productive.

Now, I actually look forward to having my own family.

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The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Let's learn from Stephen Colbert

I think we spend too much time wishing we could time travel. That probably sounds like an odd statement, but hear me out.

I can spend a lot of time analyzing the past. “Gosh, I wish I would have done...” or “Dang, it would have been so much better if...” or “I feel really bad that...” After a certain period of time, I become so wrapped up in the anger, frustration and hurt that I felt in the past that I time travel. Before I know it, the memories of the past have taken over and made the past more real than my present.

This is, beyond a doubt, the reality of countless numbers of people who, in varying degrees and in many different stages of life, deal with these types of questions from the moment they wake up until the moment they go to bed.

So, if there is one thing that I have learned in my brief foray into ministry, it’s that we all have a relationship with our past. Sometimes we are able to deal with that relationship successfully. Other times, we need a little bit more help.

I think of all of this in light of a biography I just finished about the life of Stephen Colbert. Colbert has been in the news recently as he has closed up shop on his Comedy Central show to move to CBS. He will be taking the late-night spot soon to be vacated by David Letterman.

I have followed Colbert’s career with great interest, and when a friend of mine brought home a little local book about his life, I wasted no time devouring its pages.

I can’t say I had any expectations that I would encounter such a moving story. But by the end, I was putting down the book impressed by Colbert’s example. And it’s funny — I can’t cite a particular moment that I found to be particularly moving. Rather, it was the composite of his life, the difficulties and the choices he made in response to those difficulties that I found particularly poignant.

One of eleven children, Colbert lost his dad and two brothers in an airplane accident when he was ten. Although he became withdrawn and bullied, he eventually found his joy in theater and acting (later comedy) and never looked back. Friends described his natural intelligence and curiosity and how he learned to pour all of that into performing.

But sometimes, the tragedies of his past were too much. Once while doing a scene in acting school, Colbert got so angry that he nearly punched a fellow student. This prompted a teacher to say to Colbert that she would not teach him unless he got counseling.

And he did.

As he continued to work to develop as a performer, he realized that he enjoyed making others laugh. After carrying around a heavy weight of sorrow, he sought to take matters into his own hands.

The stage gave him the space not only to confront the realities of sorrow, but to explore the intricacies of joy. And bit-by-bit, he discovered that he really liked to choose joy. He started to develop and hone a wonderful skill, the ability to find the humor and the joy in a myriad of situations, no matter how ridiculous.

Soon, this gave way to the birth of a new man, a man who made it his job to find the humor, the laughter and the joy in the midst of situations that seemed quite devoid of it.

This was why I was inspired. Colbert is a person whose life had appeared, during all the shows I watched, to have always been paved with joy. When I learned more, Colbert’s life helped me realize a deeper truth: no one’s life is paved with joy all the time. And most of the time, we have to choose it.

Like Colbert, we all have, or will have, tragedies and struggles. Like him, we may have moments of anger or sorrow. But these moments cannot define us.

Fortunately, we have a God who always offers us a helping hand. Jesus calls us out of the quicksand of our past into the hope that he promises us in the present. Do “what is right and just,” Or, as Matthew Kelly puts it: “Just do the next right thing.” Like Colbert, we have to give ourselves the space (and sometimes work really hard) to discover our joy, who God created us to be.

Too often, we get discouraged and define ourselves according to the labels of our past. But I heard once: “Forgiveness is giving up the hope that the past can be any different.” We must not disregard our past. Rather, like Colbert, we must allow it to guide our steps into the future.

Fortunately, Jesus has already shown us the way.

Scott Boyle graduated in May of 2012 with a degree in Theology and a minor in Medieval Studies. He currently lives and works as a Campus and Youth Minister in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as a member of Notre Dame’s Echo Program. He is a Campus and Youth Minister in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as a member of Notre Dame’s Echo Program.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
If you’re a fan of freak folk or a Pitchfork disciple, the opening lines of “Inherent Vice” may be a bit bewilder- ing. As the camera pans over a California beach house in the dark of night, a voiceover begins from the unique and perhaps familiar voice of Joanna Newsom — usually known as a harpist and singer — as Sortilege, the film’s narrator and, at times, friendly guide in a drugged-up, whirwind of a story.

You don’t need to know who Joanna Newsom is, however, to be bewitched by “Inherent Vice.” Director P.T. Anderson’s latest film, an adaptation of Thomas Pynchon’s 2009 novel, is a disorienting trip through and through, but it’s certainly one worth taking.

In the opening shots, Sortilege describes the atmos- phere of southern California in the year 1970 in astro- logical explanations and 70s slang, setting the stage for the story of Doc (Joaquin Phoenix), a private detective and public hippie who is sent on a wild goose chase through the crimes and conspiracies of California’s drug scene.

One night, Doc is visited by his former girlfriend, Shasta (Katherine Waterston), who appears out of the blue to ask for help. Shasta tells Doc she is caught up in a plan to disappear a married mogul she has been seeing, and is worried about what will happen to him.

But Shasta’s visit to Doc is almost like a mirage — hazy and dreamlike — and she vanishes soon after asking him for help. Doc, of course, is left with more questions than an- swers, but that is the theme throughout “Inherent Vice.” Rather than play out like a classic detective story, with a skilful uncovering of useful clues and leads that push the protagonist towards the big reveal, “Inherent Vice” dizzies its audience with characters and subplots until the film’s very end. Like the constantly high Doc, view- ers are almost constantly confused by the story, but plot — or even the mystery itself — isn’t what drives the film. Instead, “Inherent Vice” refines in the time, place and people, making it a bizarre mix of stoner comedy and pe- riod piece that gives a super-saturated snapshot of the aftermath of the 1960s.

“Inherent Vice” isn’t P.T. Anderson’s best film, but it doesn’t have to be. Instead, the movie works like “Midnight in Paris” or “Grand Budapest Hotel,” where you can delight in the setting and characters (and even the actors playing them) with a certain lightheartedness rarely found in front of P.T. Anderson’s lens.

But while a film like “Midnight in Paris” plays out like a mindless walk in the park, “Inherent Vice” takes the opposite approach, piling on so many players and con- nections in Doc’s investigation, the audience must, at some point, resign to enjoying only what is happening immediately in front of them. This, of course, mirrors the shortsightedness of the characters the film caused by their drug induced fog.

It’s hard to say, then, what the takeaway of “Inherent Vice” exactly is. Its ending is underwhelming; its message is unclear, but one aspect of the film that resonates after its neon credits roll is the relationship between Doc and his frenemy (there is no other word), Detective “Bigfoot” Bjornsen (Josh Brolin).

The interaction between the two men, one a P.I. hip- pie and the other a clean-cut police officer, is easily the most entertaining and fascinating part of the film, and Anderson’s way of conveying their complicated friend- ship grounds the film in some small way.

As dizzying and outrageous as the rest of the film is, “Inherent Vice” is still a pleasure to watch. Though its viewers may grow frustrated with its lack of direction or message, letting go and embracing its chaos pays off, and Sortilege says, “With Doc, it may all start to get a little peculiar after that.”

CONTACT ALLIE TOLLAKSEN AT ATOLAKS@ND.EDU

“INHERENT VICE”
Director: P.T. Anderson
Production Company: Shouillard Film Company, IAC Films, Warners Bros
Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Josh Brolin, Dean Wilson, Joanna Newsom, Katherine Waterston

From what I can do/What I’m capable of.”

It’s clear that “Vulnicura” houses a wide range of emo- tions, some of which are rather rough and hard to swal- low. However, by embracing the melodical and orchestral nature of her older output, Björk is able to frame them in an accessible and engaging way.

Even as the pain echoes from her lyrics, the master- ful melding of word and song allows the record to stand as another musical beauty alongside her best material. On “History of Touches,” she sings “I wake you up in the night/Feeling this is our last time together/Therefore sensing all the moments we’ve been together.” “Vulnicura” acts as such a sensation, a flash of past passions before the final moments. On her latest record, Björk captures this to perfection. Such an achievement, though indeed a powerful ending, will hopefully serve as a new beginning for an artist that still retains so much potential.

CONTACT JOHN DARR AT JDARR@ND.EDU

“Vulnicura”
Björk
Label: One Little Indian
Tracks: “Stonemilker,” “Locilong,” “Quickasand”
If you like: Kate Bush, Aphex Twin, Flying Lotus

SUSAN ZHU | The Observer

“I’m the story of Touches,” she sings “I want you home/Where you are/touching me/Feeling that you’re the only one/never let me go/in the face of my family.”

Yet amidst the pain is very familiar power in Björk’s music. Aside from the swelling strings and stuttering percussion that bond many of the record’s tracks, there are lyrical recognitions of growth and possibilities in the new era of her life.

With a return to the melodic, orchestral compositions that form her greatest records, Björk’s music seems to reach heights that she has been avoiding for a while in favor of experimentation and artistic daring.

Herlatesttwo records received far less acclaim than the rest of her catalog, and in “Mount Mantra,” she expresses a desire for the welcome change “Vulnicura” brings to her approach: “There is vocal sadness/I was separated/
By JIMMY KEMPER

MEET VI sta at a Glance

THURSDAY

What: Dance Performance
Where: Ronald K. Brown/Evidence
When: 7:00 p.m.
How Much: Free

FRIDAY

What: Joel Crouse
Where: Legends
How Much: $15 for students

SATURDAY

What: "Dear White People"
Where: Darius Rucker and Taylor Swift.
How Much: $7, $4 for students

The first, “The Jamminest Album You Eva Heard,” is the album Viper hopes will get him out there. “I’m doing 15 tracks all produced by Viper/MadeTheBeat, meaning I made all the beats from scratch, and I’m doing a video for each song. I’m putting the album through a mixtape distributor that’s gonna put it on pretty much every platform for mixtapes so you can think of… It’s gonna be a free download, and it’s gonna be my most prized project yet.”

Viper hopes “The Jamminest Album You Eva Heard” will be out by the end of March.

The other album, and as yet unnamed collaboration with Cali Cashflow, will be a double album released later in the year. Viper plans to get it posted by a major DJ, and he hopes it will be his first album with a record deal.

Of course, I couldn’t end a conversation with Viper without talking about “You’ll Cowards Don’t Even Smoke Crack.”

When asked about the motivation behind the album and the song, Viper told me that he’s “given so many different explanations because they’re all valid” and assured me that a full conversation on YCDC would take about 30 minutes. To Viper, this song is about not being afraid of anything and explained one of his first experiences with cowardice and crack.

“When I got in the scene, I was selling crack to supplement my income. And I was in a gang. We had to make sure the crack was a good batch. Because if it wasn’t a good batch a bunch of bad things could happen to you.”

Viper told me that you could substitute smoking crack with anything, but the point remains that you will have to face your fear and make sure your body and mind is ready to go.

Contact Jimmy Kemper at jkemper2@nd.edu

Even in the world of underground rap, there are very few artists like Viper. Viper first received mainstream attention several years ago, when his song (and album of the same name) “You’ll Cowards Don’t Even Smoke Crack” became an internet meme due to its shockingly upfront title and unique album cover. Since then, Viper has been hard at work to break into the mainstream, releasing albums with titles ranging from “This Greatest Thang Made By God” to “Google Rapper Viper.”

After a series of direct messages on Twitter, I recently had the opportunity to talk to Viper and get some insight into his life, his music making process and his future plans.

Most musicians are lucky if they can complete a single album in one year, but last year Viper released more than 300. Even more amazing is the fact that Viper does this completely by himself, in his free time when he’s not running his real estate brokerage, his independent label RymeTyme Records, his free moving service or word-drapstax.com.

As Viper himself pointed out, though, these businesses “get the money coming in, and frees up my time to dedicate to the music.”

Viper told me he could make an entirely new song from scratch in under an hour. When Viper wakes up, he starts off making three or four different beats and the respective hooks using the RuffyLoops software. Then, he records the melodies using his phone in 30 minutes before he completes the tracks.

“As far as recording them,” Viper says, “I have a lot of material that I dip into. When I was in the penitentiary, I wrote about 500 songs.” After that, it takes Viper only about 10 minutes to mix and master the track.

“Before you know it, you’ve got a hi-fi product that’s ready to go out the oven. So we’re looking at about a four-hour turnaround for four songs and I’m done for the rest of the day with music.”

In addition to recording new songs, Viper chops and screws a number of his songs to be able to maintain this ridiculously fast production speed. Chopping and screwing is a process where hip hop songs are remixed by slowing down the tempo and applying techniques such as record scratching and skipping beats to create a “chopped-up” version of the original. This was introduced by DJ Screw and is a huge part of the music scene in Houston, Viper’s hometown.

Out of all 300 plus albums he released last year, Viper says the album that particularly stood out was “*F*** Tha World It Ain’t Real I Bend Tha Spoon With My Mind.” While other albums by Viper tackle important mainstream issues such as police brutality and gun violence, “*F*** Tha World It Ain’t Real I Bend Tha Spoon With My Mind” engages with cryogenic freezing and the possibilities of the future.

Viper is a member of Alcor, a company that seeks to extend the lives of its individual members through preservation in biostasis.

According to Viper, “the purpose of the album is that … supposedly after so many years, maybe 1,000 or 2,000 years, that foundation is keeping our bodies frozen and then at some point, when the technology is good enough, they’ll bring us all back. So I’m thinking that by the time they do bring us all back, humans will be so advanced they’ll be able to do some form of telepathy, so that’s why I’ll be able to bend the spoon with my mind.”

There will be a way train the people to do that.

This year, Viper plans to take a step back from releasing an album almost every day of the year and focus on just two projects.

"This social satire follows the lives of four black students at a primarily-White Ivy League college. The movie explores how they navigate campus life and racial politics. The film won the 2014 Sundance Film Festival's Special Jury Award for Breakthrough Talent.

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"When I got in the scene, I was selling crack to supplement my income. And I was in a gang. We had to make sure the crack was a good batch. Because if it wasn't a good batch a bunch of bad things could happen to you."

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Contact Jimmy Kemper at jkemper2@nd.edu

This week's weekly watch is the dark psychological horror film, "The Babadook." With a menacingly eerie monster and powerful takeaway, "The Babadook" promises to be both scary and entertaining. Check out this week's weekly watch on Amazon Video or Google Play. Read Monday's paper for Adam Ramos' review of the movie.
Let the air out of deflate gate

One storyline did finally emerge, it turns out, from New England’s 45-7 drubbing of Indianapolis on Sunday in their Week 17 Super Bowl game. The resulting “scandal” has even already spawned its own all-too clichéd nickname: DeflateGate.

According to NFL sources, 11 of the 12 game balls used by New England were under-inflated by almost two pounds per square inch (psi). For a ball that is mandated by the NFL to be between only 12.5 and 13.5 pounds per square inch, a couple of pounds of pressure is a significant difference that could only have been caused by deliberate action on the part of New England. Or so some claim.

Of course, this is an easy conclusion to reach. In 2007, the Patriots and their coach, Bill Belichick, were punished by the league for having tampered with game signals after the NFL outlawed the practice, a scenario referred to as “Spygate.”

New England have a confirmed report of possible misdeeds by an already convicted cheater. Seems pretty black and white, right?

In the words of Lee Corso, “Not so fast, my friends.”

There are a few points I feel deserve mentioning before we go on a Belichick witch hunt. One may exonerate the Patriots if correct while the other may implicate others who share the blame.

The first is this: when the NFL tests these game balls, they do so inside, where the temperature is always above 70 degrees. Outside during the game, the temperature was in the 40s by the time any of the “deflated” balls were noticed. That difference of almost 30 degrees is significant enough to noticeably drop the pressure in something like a football. So if, inside, the Patriots’ balls measured at the minimum acceptable level before the game, by the time of re-measurement, they certainly dropped below the threshold. Would it have been enough to cause an almost two psi difference that reports cite?

This is where having a physics major for a roommate finally comes in handy. Using simplified calculations, he approached me that a drop of more than one psi could be expected. Combined with Rob Gronkowski’s observation that the Patriots were spiking the ball after scoring so many touchdowns (or actual potential factors such as humidity), perhaps this is enough account for the drop in pressure. If this is the case, the Patriots did nothing wrong other than cleverly play the elements.

Of course, this would also assume the balls were measured for the second time outside which, if the case is, is an egregious error on the NFL’s part. Had the Patriots waited to warm up again and measured inside at two psi lower, then that whole argument is obviously null and void.

Therefore, let’s assume the Patriots did in fact deflate their footballs. There are still a couple other things to consider. The Baltimore Ravens have helped shed light on the first of these, since they claimed today the Patriots were using deflated balls against them last weekend.

Perhaps the Patriots have gotten away with this sort of thing before, knowing how many times. If this is true, then the NFL failed in enforcing the rules.

That would not of course mean Belichick and the Patriots did not cheat. They still broke the rules, if that is in fact what the NFL finds.

The team and coach’s previous history have proven they do not shy away from trying to gain an advantage. Yet here is where the NFL failed again.

After “Spygate,” a much worse offense for which the opinion, Belichick was fined $500,000, and the Patriots lost their first-round pick in the next draft. Seems pretty harsh right? Let’s imagine the league finds this offense did occur, and the NFL hands out the same punishments this time around. New England is in the Super Bowl already, so their first-round pick is going to basically a second-rounder anyway, which is not losing much for a team that drafts and develops elite quarter-backs from the sixth round. Belichick’s bonus in his contract for winning a Super Bowl would certainly help offset a potential fine levied against him.

Therefore, if Deflate-gate is real, the league needs to crack down hard on the Patriots and Belichick. Otherwise, a dangerous precedent will be set. Because let’s face it: what team would risk its first-round pick for a Super Bowl ring?

Zach Klonsinski
Sports Writer

NCAA Men’s Basketball | North Carolina 87, Wake Forest 71

Associated Press

WINSTON-SALEM, North Carolina — Kennedy Meeks scored 12 of his 16 points after halftime to help No. 15 North Carolina pull away and beat Wake Forest 87-71 on Wednesday night.

Brice Johnson had 19 points as the other half of a two-headed inside attack that helped the Tar Heels (15-4, 5-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) score 50 points in the paint on the way to their fourth straight league win.

Freshman Justin Jackson added 17 points as the Tar Heels shot 69 percent (18 for 26) after halftime and 60 percent for the game.

The Tar Heels led 40-34 at halftime, but Meeks scored three straight baskets out of the break to push the lead to double digits and put UNC in firm control.

Codi Miller-McIntyre scored 20 points to lead the Demon Deacons (9-10, 1-5), who played tough in losses to highly ranked Duke and Louisville here earlier this month.

But after weeks of clear progress under first-year coach Danny Manning, they took a big step back against the Tar Heels.

Wake Forest shot 40 percent for the game and couldn’t keep up with the Tar Heels after halftime, trailing by as many as 16 midway through the second half.

The Tar Heels were coming off Sunday’s sluggish home win against Virginia Tech in a performance that irked coach Roy Williams so much that he made his team practice the next night instead of having Monday off.

Williams not least responded with a sharper performance despite losing freshman guard Theo Pinson to a foot injury and getting into some foul trouble early in the second half.

Both Johnson and Meeks went 8 for 11 from the floor, while Meeks finished with eight boards despite playing limited first-half minutes after picking up three fouls.

Jackson clipped in his second straight double-figure scoring game, as the Tar Heels scored on 12 of 16 possessions to start the second half. They took a 65-48 lead on Jackson’s basket near the 12-minute mark.

Anthony helps last-place Knicks to another victory

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Carmelo Anthony had 27 points and 11 rebounds to lead the New York Knicks past the Philadelphia 76ers 98-91 on Wednesday night.

For the second straight night, the Eastern Conference is suddenly on a hot streak. New York snatched its 16-game losing streak Monday with a win against New Orleans and made it two straight with the victory against the lowly Sixers.

The Sixers’ eight wins are only one more than New York’s total, and each team is battling to better its odds to win the No. 1 pick in the draft lottery.

Knicks President Phil Jackson tried to tell Knicks fans better times were ahead while picking up three fouls.

“The worst thing we could do is get discouraged,” Jackson said. “These guys, they haven’t played this level of basketball. They’re getting a lot of attention, so we’re going to have to figure it out. It’s healthy.”

Brown said. “These guys, they are doing a job, getting along, they’ve got a lot of potential. They’re differences are good for high draft picks and potential franchise players. The likely prize this year is Duke center Jahlil Okafor.”

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 128 South St. #200, at the Notre Dame Student Center. Classifieds must be prepaid. The change is 6 cents per word, including all abbreviations. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

“I’ll tell you what. I’m never eating at Bennet’s again. I don’t care whose birthday it is.”

If you can name the movie that quote is from, email Rachel O’Grady at rogrady@nd.edu for food from Rockers.
LeBron, Cavaliers cruise past Jazz

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James scored 26 points, Kevin Love added 19 and the resurgent Cleveland Cavaliers won their fourth straight, 106-92 over the Utah Jazz on Wednesday night.

Shaking off a flu bug that forced him to miss practice Tuesday and also slowed Kyrie Irving, James added nine assists and seven rebounds. The Cavs are 4-1 since the four-time MVP returned after missing eight games with a strained back and knee.

Irving added 18 points and Timofey Mozgov 16 for Cleveland, beginning to find its stride following a stretch of injuries and two major trades. J.R. Smith scored 15 as all five Cavs starters scored at least that many for the second straight game.

Until that happened on Monday, the Cavs hadn’t done that since March 16, 1993.

Enes Kanter scored 24 with 17 rebounds and Gordon Hayward scored 14 for Utah, which has dropped five of six and four straight road games.

The Cavs avenged a 102-100 loss to the Jazz on Nov. 5, when Hayward dropped a buzzer-beating jumper after escaping James. There would be no such heroics this time for Hayward, who received an icy stare from James in the third quarter.

James scored 26 points, six assists and seven rebounds in his 16th dunk of his 12-year career. The shot ended a 13-4 spurt that stretched the lead to 65-45.

The Hawks seized control late in the second quarter by simply outworking the Pacers. After David West let a pass slip through his hands and roll back across the midcourt line, he paused briefly in frustration while Teague raced by him to scoop up the loose ball for an uncontested layup.

Indiana missed on its next possession, and Antic knocked down a 3-pointer. Just like that, the home team had stretched its lead to 47-32.

Up 52-41 at halftime, the Hawks quickly put things away at the start of the third quarter, burying the Pacers from the 3-point stripe. Paul Millsap, Teague and Carroll all swished from long range in a 13-4 spurt that stretched the lead to 65-45.

Carroll wasn’t done. After the Pacers deflected one of his passes, he hustled for the loose ball, drove for the basket and put up a shot that rimmed out. Antic rebounded, whipped it back outside, and the Hawks passed all the way around the arc, setting up Carroll for an open 3-pointer from the corner.

Nothing but net.

Korver dunks as Hawks win 14th in a row

Associated Press

ATLANTA — DeMarre Carroll and Jeff Teague scored 17 points apiece to lead a balanced offense, Kyle Korver dunked for the first time in more than two years, and the Atlanta Hawks tied the franchise record with their 14th straight victory, routing the Indiana Pacers 110-91 on Wednesday night.

With the victory, which improved the Hawks’ conference-leading record to 35-8, Mike Budenholzer clinched a spot as the Eastern coach in next month’s All-Star Game in New York City.

Budenholzer should be taking several players with him. The Hawks romped to their 28th victory in the last 30 games, showing the kind of teamwork that has become their trademark in a season that no one saw coming.

Ten players had scored by halftime, with the pesky Carroll leading the way. All five starters scored in double figures, and Pero Antic chipped off the bench with 12 points.

But this one will be remembered for Korver’s dunk in the first half. Normally a 3-point specialist, the 33-year-old got out ahead of a fast break, took a pass from Al Horford and slammed it home — well, barely cleared the rim — with his right hand.

It was Korver’s first dunk since Nov. 16, 2012, at Sacramento, a span of 198 games without a slam. According to STATS, it was the 16th dunk of his 12-year NBA career.

C.J. Miles led the Pacers with 18 points. Indiana shot just 38.7 percent and lost its sixth in a row.

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Nothing but net.

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in time for a more high-stakes meet this weekend, which will be the first scored event in which the Irish have competed so far. Turner said both his own approach and the runners’ approaches are slightly different with the scoring in place.

“I want to make sure we have each event area covered and have a good showing in each event,” he said. “It also holds each person accountable. … [When] I put you in an event to compete, I expect you to contribute and score well. Whereas before there were no team implications, here I’m looking for everyone to do their part.”

However, Turner said he still keeps the long-term health of the runners as his priority.

“Any competition we enter that’s a scored meet, I want to win, but … not at the expense of hurting our team or pushing our team to a limit that will affect us in a month,” he said. “[That being said,] now is where the season really picks up, and there’s no more, ‘Well okay, it’s my first meet, I’ve never done this.’ It’s time to really get the legs turning over.”

The Irish will host the Notre Dame Invitational beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday in Loftus Sports Center.

Contact Andrew Robinson at arobin5@nd.edu

MEN’S TENNIS

Notre Dame to face top-25 foes

Observer Sports Staff

Notre Dame’s spring season will shift into high gear as the No. 14 Irish host the 2015 ITA Kick-Off Weekend on Saturday and Sunday at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Sixty men’s teams will compete across the country to qualify for the ITA National Team Indoor Championships in February, and those teams are separated into groups of four playing at 15 campus host sites. In the four-team tournament this weekend, the host site traditionally faces the No. 4-seeded school, and the No. 2 seed plays the No. 3 seed. The winner at each site advances to the national tournament, while first-day losers face off in a consolation round.

Last year, Notre Dame traveled to Kentucky to face the Wildcats, BYU and Minnesota. After defeating Minnesota on the first day of competition, the Irish upset Kentucky, 4-3, in the final match of the weekend.

The Irish are coming off a solid weekend at the Morgan Run Hidden Duals on Jan. 9-11 and more recently, bested No. 18 Kentucky in a 4-3 win last Saturday.

Notre Dame will host a competitive men’s pod, with all four teams ranked in the top 25 — No. 16 Columbia, No. 17 Tennessee and No. 24 Oklahoma State. The Irish will take on Oklahoma State in Saturday’s opening round, and Tennessee will play Columbia that day.

Competition between the Lions and Volunteers kicks off at 10 a.m. Saturday, and the Irish and Cowboys will square off at 2 p.m. The winners of each match will face each other at 1 p.m. Sunday, with the consolation match at 10 a.m. that day. All matches will take place at Eck Tennis Pavilion, with a trip to the ITA National Team Indoor Championships in February on the line.

Irish junior Danielle Aragon, left, and freshman Jessica Harris run in the 1,000-meter run during the Blue and Gold Invitational on Dec. 14.

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Notre Dame Winter CLEARANCE EVENT
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Irish sophomore forward V.J. Beachem shoots a 3-pointer during Notre Dame’s 75-70 win over Miami on Saturday at Purcell Pavilion.

M Basketball
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

feel for playing with our guys offensively. He has instincts and he fights. ... He is a key guy for us moving forward."

Beachem, for his part, has held his own at times over the last couple weeks. It began with a 12-point first-half performance Jan. 10 against Virginia that prevented the game from being a blow-out early. Beachem also provided boosts with a nine-point performance at North Carolina on Jan. 5, 10 points in the Jan. 14 win at Georgia Tech and 13 points against Miami on Saturday. He leads the team in 3-point shooting, averaging 51.8 percent from beyond the arc.

"I just know that my teammates trust me, Coach Brey trusts me, so I feel like I have more control over my game," Beachem said of his increased confidence after the Miami game. "If I have an inch to take a jump shot, I know I can take it and knock it down."

Notre Dame has also gone to a smaller lineup at times over the last few games, sometimes using five guards on the floor at once.

"Your first reaction is, we won’t be able to guard or rebound, but heck, we can’t rebound anyways," Brey said. "Why don’t we just play small and have some more firepower on the floor? ... The smaller lineup really spreads the floor, and we were getting cleaner looks because we were getting drives from [senior guard] Jerian [Grant] and [Jackson] and kicking out to guys for really clean looks."

The adjustment has worked so far for the Irish, as the team ranks second nationally in field-goal percentage (52.8 percent). Notre Dame also shoots more than 40 percent from beyond the 3-point arc and is tied for 20th in the country averaging 8.8 3-pointers made per game.

Brey said opponents have had to adjust to his team’s style of play with the small lineup.

"I think they started the game differently," Brey said after Miami. "They started ... a smaller guy. Everyone has down-shifted to us. They really did in the last 10 minutes. They went back to the big fellow for a little bit, he made a layup, and then he missed one, and they said, ‘The heck with it,’ and got him out. Then it was 10 guards on the floor, driving and kicking and shooting."

On the other hand, Virginia Tech shoots 46.3 percent from the field and averages 68 points per game to Notre Dame’s 82.

"We know that we have a lot of work left to do," Beachem said following Miami. "But we are off to a great start in the ACC and just want to keep it going."

The Irish will look to do just that tonight at 7 p.m. at Cassell Coliseum in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Contact Zach Klonsinski at zklonsin@nd.edu
20.5 points per game, the third best average in the ACC behind Irish junior guard Jewell Loyd at 20.8 points per game and Wake Forest senior forward Dearica Hamby’s 20.7. Davis, along with Loyd and Hamby, was named to the preseason top-30 watch list for the Wooden Award, annually given to the country’s top player.

Freshman forward Zaire O’Neil also has stepped up to record 10.9 points per game, fourth best for Georgia Tech, and freshman guard Antonia Personen has started 16 games.

Senior guard Sydney Wallace (13.1) and junior guard/forward Aaliyah Whiteside (12.7) round out the Yellow Jackets’ double-figure scorers.

The Irish had little time to rest after Monday’s win over Tennessee, but McGraw said she was excited for the opportunities offered by the tight scheduling.

“That’s the great thing about this team. It’s not a one-man team or a two-man team,” McGraw said. “We’ve got a lot of good players.”

Notre Dame tips off at 7 p.m. Thursday against Georgia Tech at Purcell Pavilion, kicking off a string of 11 straight ACC matchups for the Irish.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu
CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS
1 Vigorously pursuing something
5 Huggers
9 Parisian pig
13 Vein glory?
14 Bijou water
15 Prettos
16 Popular kind of 31- and 37-Across
18 Date
19 Christmas in Italy
20 Excavation toil of an ancient Egyptian capital
22 French composer Saint-Saëns
23 Look at the Battle
24 First of its kind?
25 “Mary!”

DOWN
16 1977 hit role for Peter Fonda
33 More than the sum of its parts
52 Currency
53 It may be hard
70 To prove in court
75 The Thursday, January 22, 2015

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

RED, GREEN, BLUE, ORANGE, BLACK, WHITE, PINK

HIGHLY PUBLISHEDLY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

DOME NUTS | ALEXANDRIA WELLMAN

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday! You'll be electric, in tune with the universe, and ready to take on the world. Emotions will be high and big plans can be put into play. Your hard work will start to pay off, and now is a good time to initiate the positive changes that will improve your life personally and professionally. Don’t let negativity slow you down. Your numbers are 5, 8, 17, 23, 31, 41, 45.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Step outside your boundaries, and you will discover you have much to offer than you thought. A challenge coupled with a little competition will spark the incentive to improve and excel. Love is on the rise.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Listen carefully and ask questions if something comes up you don’t understand. Emotions will be high and should be channelled so you want to avoid a misunderstanding. Moderation will be in your best interest in all aspects of life.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Keep your mind on your goal and avoid being tempted to let someone take over any of the things you proposed that require your undivided attention.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Put your intuition guide you when it comes to partnerships. Love is highlighted, and romantic plans will ensure that your personal life heads in the right direction.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): No matter what task you are given, take ownership and do the best job possible you will advance. It’s up to you to make things happen if you want to improve someone who can help you advance. Show your value.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Plan a gathering or social outing. Get together with people who have something to contribute, and brainstorm to come up with a plus to advance. Romance will greatly improve your day if you put aside some time to spend with your loved one.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep the fire burning in your romantic relationship. Freshly assessed ideas will help you achieve your ultimate goal.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Talks will lead to greater knowledge and insight into what everyone around you wants, thinks or is planning to do.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The changes will help you reach your ultimate goal.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Someone who is willing to listen will assist or help you identify any flaws in your plan. Taking a different path to reach your goal will help you outsmart the competition. Take charge, but don’t let others get ahead of you.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Find someone who is willing to listen. An understanding person will help you achieve your ultimate goal.

Happy Birthday: You are ahead of your time. Commitment will help you reach your ultimate goal.

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Unscramble these six Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Jumbles: DUNCE CHAMP SWITCH SQUASH

Answer: He was running behind with his mutual deliveries and needed to do this—CATCH UP

WORK AREA
Notre Dame returns to ACC action

By SAMANTHA ZUBA
Assistant Managing Editor

On the heels of a win over No. 5 Tennessee, the No. 6 Irish resume their conference slate Thursday with a matchup against Georgia Tech at 7 p.m. at Purcell Pavilion.

Notre Dame (17-2, 4-1 ACC) took down Tennessee (15-3, 5-0 SEC), 88-77, Monday at Purcell Pavilion in front of a national audience. The win was the first for the Irish this season against a top-five opponent and a victory Notre Dame needed moving forward, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

“I think it’s a great win for us,” McGraw said after Monday’s game. “We’ve had some good wins this year already with Florida State and at North Carolina, so it looks like we’re really starting to gel. We hoped that we would be playing well heading into the conference race and certainly by February, so maybe we’re a little ahead of schedule right now.”

The next step in that conference race is a Georgia Tech squad that has dropped two in a row. The Yellow Jackets (12-7, 2-3 ACC) lost, 96-81, to No. 12 North Carolina on Jan. 11 and fell in overtime to Pittsburgh on Sunday, 75-72.

Georgia Tech lost another heartbreaker, 79-73 in overtime against then-No. 16 Michigan State on Dec. 4. The team’s last win came Jan. 8, a narrow 88-77 victory over ACC foe Boston College.

The Irish have a young roster with six freshmen, two sophomores, three juniors and just one senior. Two of those underclassmen, however, have stepped up to be among the team’s leading scorers.

Sophomore guard Kaela Davis has tallied a team-best 25 points in Notre Dame’s last two games.

Irish aim to continue historic start

By ZACH KLONSINSKI
Sports Writer

No. 8 Notre Dame looks to build on its best start since 1976-77 tonight when it takes on Virginia Tech in an ACC clash at 7 p.m. in Blacksburg, Virginia.

A win would give the Irish (17-2, 5-1 ACC) their best 20-game start in more than 40 years, dating back to the 1973-74 squad that opened with a 19-1 record. A win would also give Notre Dame its first ever 3-0 start in conference road games.

It has been a huge turnaround from last year for the Irish, who were floundering in their first season of ACC play through 20 games. The team was 11-9 overall but only 2-5 in conference play.

However, one of those two wins came against the Hokies (8-9, 0-4), a 70-63 victory at Purcell Pavilion on Jan. 19, 2014. The other was a 79-77 upset of No. 7 Duke at home Jan. 4, 2014.

“We’ve made big steps from last year, but we have a lot more improvements to make, and we can get so much better,” sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson said after Notre Dame’s 75-70 win over Miami on Saturday at Purcell Pavilion.

The emergence of Jackson at the point for Notre Dame has been one of the keys to its success this year. The sophomore averages 13.6 points, 3.4 rebounds and 3.3 assists per game while his 39 steals on the defensive end are best in the ACC.

Notre Dame has also recently discovered two new weapons off its bench in freshman forward Bonzie Colson and sophomore forward V.J. Beachem. With junior forward Zach Auguste sitting out Jan. 14 at Georgia Tech, the undersized Colson stepped in to give the Irish 10 points and four rebounds in 22 minutes of play while also energizing the team by playing with a bloody nose.

“I love (Colson),” Irish coach Mike Brey said after the Miami win. “He’s still trying to get a